IN THE CLAIMS

1-17. (cancelled)

18. (new) A method for treatment of heart failure comprising:

delivery of an expression construct comprising coding sequence for a dominant negative phospholamban to heart wherein the expression of the coding sequence is controlled by a promoter functional in heart and the dominant negative phospholamban increases cardiac contractility or cardiac relaxation.

19. (new) The method as in claim 18, wherein the coding sequence is delivered using a viral vector.

20. (new) The method as in claim 18, wherein the coding sequence is delivered by injection into the heart.

21. (new) The method as in claim 20, wherein the coding sequence is delivered by direct injection into the heart.

22. (new) The method as in claim 20, wherein the coding sequence is delivered by transcoronary injection into the heart.

23. (new) The method as in claim 18, wherein the dominant negative phospholamban comprises a phospholamban mutated to imitate phosphorylation of phospholamban.

24. (new) The method as in claim 18, wherein the coding sequence comprises DNA.

25. (new) The method as in claim 18, wherein the coding sequence comprises RNA.

26. (new) A method for treatment of heart failure comprising:

delivery of a DNA construct to heart comprising a coding sequence for an antisense phospholamban RNA wherein transcription of the coding sequence is controlled by a promoter functional in heart and the antisense phospholamban RNA increases cardiac contractility or cardiac relaxation.

27. (new) The method as in claim 26, wherein the coding sequence is delivered using a viral vector.

28. (new) The method as in claim 26, wherein the coding sequence is delivered by injection into the heart.

29. (new) The method as in claim 28, wherein the coding sequence is delivered by direct injection into the heart.

30. (new) The method as in claim 28, wherein the coding sequence is delivered by transcoronary injection into the heart.

31. (new) The method as in claim 26, wherein the coding sequence comprises DNA.